

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES OF OCTOBER 27, 2015**

PRESENT: Mr. Dario F. Nardi, Chairman and Mr. James A. Gagner, Clerk

ABSENT: Mr. Robert E. Lavash, Sr., Vice-Chairman

ATTENDEES: Beverly & Stan Soltys, Ray Kopaco, Jim McKeon, Officer Joseph A. LaFlower, Sgt. Joseph LaFlower, Kathy Kuprycz and Colleen Montague

Chairman Nardi called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM and led the Pledge of Allegiance at this time.

Mr. Nardi announced that this evening's meeting was being both video and audio taped. Ms. Montague from the Quaboag Current is also audio taping.

MINUTES

Motion to accept and approve the Executive Session Minutes of October 8, 2015 as written made by Mr. Gagner; second: Mr. Nardi – unanimous.

Motion to accept and approve the Minutes of October 8, 2015 as written made by Mr. Gagner; second; Mr. Nardi – unanimous

Motion to accept and approve the Minutes of October 13, 2015 as written made by Mr. Gagner; second: Mr. Nardi – unanimous.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Nardi advised all that he did check into the issue with trucks using Quaboag Street as a route of travel. He stated that he contacted the Chief of Police to which he did speak with the haulers. Apparently due to the weight restrictions on the bridge and the sharp turn onto Old W. Brookfield Road, it was safer to exit town via Quaboag Street. In addition, it is a public road. The Chief urged caution when using the road.

Mr. Nardi stated that the office received the final numbers on the street lighting audit. He is pleased to announce that the preliminary numbers came in lower than what the town budgeted. He will keep all parties updated as the project moves forward.

Mr. Nardi also stated that he is nearing completion on the town wide email project. It should be up and running within the next couple of weeks.

COMMENTS & CONCERNS

Mr. McKeon on behalf of the Park & Recreation Department advised all that they will be hosting the 5th annual Haunted House from October 28th thru the 30th from 6:30PM to 8PM. The event is free to all.

Mr. Soltys requested complete copies of all the inspection reports of the vehicles under control of the Highway Department. He did acknowledge that he received a summary. Mrs. Acerra will contact the Highway Surveyor on this matter.

CORRESPONDENCE

- The office received a letter from the residents at 129 Knox Trail Road regarding the deterioration of their driveway. They feel that the deterioration is due to the weight of construction trucks from what is suspected to be that of a local paving company. As stated in their letter, the Highway Department did review the damage and are seeking to address the drainage issue. The property owners are requesting that the Board of Selectmen reach out to the company to see if there can be some amicable solution to the problem. ***Mr. Nardi will contact the property owners to discuss the matter.***

- Warren Park & Recreation Department will host its 5th annual Haunted House beginning Wednesday, October 28th – 30th from 6:30PM to 8PM at the Shepard Municipal Building gymnasium. This event is free to all. - **Noted**
- The office received an email from Tom Boudreau regarding converting the 1991 International dump/plow/spreader truck to a permanent plow spreader vehicle. Mr. Boudreau is also requesting that town officials be present during this process to see the severity of rust issues with the frame of this vehicle. Please contact Mr. Boudreau directly in order to set a time that is convenient for all. – **Mr. Nardi stated that Mr. Lavash had an opportunity to view the vehicle. Both Mr. Nardi and Mr. Gagner will also stop up as soon as possible.**
- The office received an email from Steve Cristol and Pattie LeBoeuf offering assistance to a family with cleaning up their property which was recently the subject of a Correction Order. Mr. Cristol and Ms. LeBoeuf have requested that the Board of Health who issued the Order first contact the owners. As of this meeting, Mr. Lacey contacted the Selectmen’s Office and has reached out to Ms. LeBoeuf regarding the current status. **Mr. Nardi stated that as of this evening Mr. Lacey has not contacted him as he stated he would to the office. Mr. Nardi applauded both Mr. Cristol and Ms. LeBoeuf for their efforts.**
- A request from CMRPC to gauge interest in Joint Procurement of Goods and Services. (The office has forwarded this email to the Procurement Officer as well). **Noted**
- A reminder from the Planning Board that a Public Hearing will be held on Wednesday, November 4th at 6:45PM on the proposed zoning amendments (cell towers and creation of commercial district). All are encouraged to attend. **Noted**
- A letter of support and thanks from the West Warren Water District regarding the proposed Highland Street Improvement Project which is being administered by PVPC with grant funding through CDBG. **Noted**

FRIENDS OF THE TOWN HALL

Mrs. Kuprycz approached the Board this evening looking for permission to secure a closet in the Shepard Municipal Building for storage of their rubber ducks which are used in the Annual Duck Race. Mr. Nardi stated that he does not have any objection to the request if space is available; however no additional keys to the building will be provided. With no further discussion, the following motion was made: Motion to allow the FOTTH to use the former CERT closet on the 1st floor for storage made by Mr. Gagner; second: Mr. Nardi – unanimous.

TREASURY WARRANTS AND DRAW DOWNS

- Motion to approve and sign warrant number 51 and 54 dated October 19, 2015 in the amounts of \$40,147.58 and \$263,671.12 respectively made by Mr. Gagner; second: Mr. Nardi – unanimous.
- Motion to approve and sign warrant number 52 dated October 19, 2015 in the amount of \$210.97 made by Mr. Gagner; second: Mr. Nardi – unanimous
- Motion to approve and sign warrant number 55 and 57 dated October 26, 2015 in the amount of \$35,336.17 and \$50,167.04 made by Mr. Gagner; second: Mr. Nardi – unanimous
- Motion to approve and sign Invoice No. 4 for FY14 for Pleasant Street Improvements for Pioppi Construction in the amount of \$88,210.35 made by Mr. Gagner; second: Mr. Nardi – unanimous.

NEW BUSINESS

Officer Joseph A. LaFlower approached the Board this evening seeking a letter of support from their office in order to hopefully secure a \$25,000.00 grant for the addition of a K9 Unit. He along with Chief Spiewakowski has been working with the Stanton Foundation in this regard. It is a time sensitive matter and Ofc. LaFlower is requesting that the Board act on his request. In summation, the Foundation provides the \$25,000.00 in start up money from the grant program to the town, which would cover a three year period. The Stanton Foundation requires a five year commitment from any municipality. The approximate cost of the last two years would run approximately \$1,500.00 to \$2,000.00 to maintain the program. Ofc. LaFlower would be the handler and the K9 would be on duty when he is. Both Officer LaFlower and the K9 can be called in at the Chief’s discretion. Ofc. LaFlower would also receive training which is mandated by the program. Coverage for his shift during the training is reimbursable through the grant money.

The Town of Warren has utilized area K9 Units 14 times over the past 5 years with an average response time of 38 ½ minutes with some responses taking over an 1 hour. Both Mr. Nardi and Mr. Gagner agree that this is a great opportunity for the town. Should this endeavor come to fruition, neighboring towns can call on our K9 Unit under the Mutual Aid Agreement. With no further discussion, the following motion was made: Motion to sign a letter of support to the Stanton Foundation with regard to the request for the implementation of a K9 Unit in Warren as requested made by Mr. Gagner; second: Mr. Nardi – unanimous. Mrs. Acerra will prepare the letter for signature and pick up for October 28, 2015.

Mr. Gagner extended his congratulations to the Warren Youth Football League. He stated that all three teams made the playoffs and credit is much in part to not only player dedication but to parent involvement. He also extended his thanks to all that attended the Annual Fireman’s Spaghetti Dinner that was recently held. As always, it continues to be well attended and very successful. Again, thanks to all!

Reminder: In accordance with Article IX, Section 11A of the Town of Warren General By-laws, prohibits any person from raking, pushing or pile of leaves or other yard debris onto a public way, street or roadway so as to create a safety hazard or obstacle to normal travel. This carries a non-criminal penalty of twenty-five (\$25.00) dollars.

Mr. Nardi wanted to remind all departments once again that if they are expecting any kind of capital expenditure, they must first meet with Capital Planning according to the bylaws. The Board of Selectmen will not entertain any submittals without Capital Planning’s input.

Next Meeting Date(s): November 5th at 6:30PM at Quaboag Regional M/H School. The Special Town Meeting will be held at 7PM.

Motion to Adjourn made by Mr. Gagner; second: Mr. Nardi – unanimous at 7:32PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca Acerra
Selectmen’s Assistant

James A. Gagner, Jr., Clerk